

Friday  
2000

Dear Mom,

I racking up the time now, honey. Yesterday I got an hour dual and one solo, and the same today. I've got almost 16 hours now!

Boy how I love that solo work. Man it's really something. No kiddin' it's another world.

Today I climbed up to 4500'. About 8 o'clock it was. And sun out the us glass. The clouds were just hanging on the horizon. The sun just breaking through them.

On my dual time today Ballo gave



me some new stunts, ~~not~~  
from climbing and gliding  
turns. Boy they're tricky  
by a lot of fun. He also  
gave me chandeller.

In this maneuvers you  
dive the ship at 1850  
R.P.M's. to about 110 mph.

the bring the nose up  
and around 1800 to a  
position of steep climb.

You do one after another  
alternating from left  
to right, like sliding  
up and down a  
steep tobagan. They're  
really fun. Then to  
top it off he demonstrated  
a loop followed by  
a snap roll. When  
we got off of that  
I didn't know where  
the hell I was. Balke  
said that he was watching



me in the mirror.  
He said I had a smile  
from ear to ear. I guess  
I did, I loved it.

In the loop he  
dived the ship to about  
120 and then brought  
the nose up, up, up.

The horizon drops  
down and clear blue  
is ahead of you.

I looked up and  
watched the other  
horizon come up in  
back of me while  
we were upside down.

Man what a thrill.

Then that hairy  
snap roll, and I  
nearly blew a gut. He  
sure is an H.P.

I got a letter from  
Dad today. He's fine.

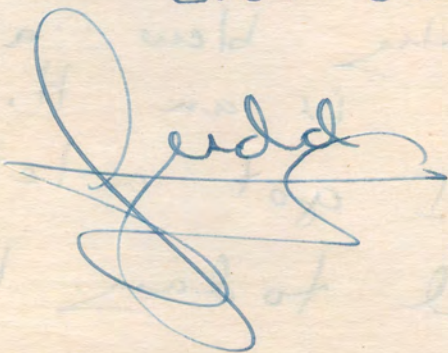


Can't tell me where he is.  
Says it's hell. He just  
got one of my letters  
dated May 9<sup>th</sup>. The  
invasion held up all his  
mail. He got about fifty  
letters at once.

Thank ~~Bob~~<sup>Mary</sup> for her  
letter, hon. Tell her I'll  
write her as soon as  
possible, and that I  
love her.

Give my love to  
Bob, and a kiss to  
Ricky. I love you  
and think about you  
so often.

Your devoted son

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature that appears to read "Ludd". The signature is written in dark ink and features a large, looping initial "L" followed by several fluid, connected strokes.